



U.S. Department of Justice

Southern District of Indiana

United States Attorney

10 West Market Street

(317)226-6333

Suite 2100

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048

TDD (317)226-5438

FAX NUMBERS:

Criminal (317)226-6125

Administration (317)226-5176

Civil (317)226-5027

FLU (317) 226-6133

OCDETF (317)226-5953

April 19, 2005

CONTACT PERSON:

SUSAN W. BROOKS

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**INDIANAPOLIS WOMAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS PURCHASES**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MARIE POLSTON, 23, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to six months imprisonment and six months of community confinement by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder following her guilty plea to making false statements in connection with the acquisition of firearms from a firearms dealer. This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives and was prosecuted as part of the Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program to reduce gun violence.

Between July 26, 2004, and August 12, 2004, POLSTON purchased eight handguns from two federally licensed firearms dealers, Don's Guns and Galleries, and Bradis, Inc. When making each purchase, POLSTON represented to the respective firearms dealer that she

was the actual buyer of the firearms when in fact she was purchasing the firearms for another person, Ivan Nunez, 20, of Lynwood, California. Nunez, who gave POLSTON money to buy the guns, previously plead guilty to aiding and abetting POLSTON in making false statements in connection with the acquisition of firearms and was sentenced to 29 months' imprisonment. Dennis Lewis, of Indianapolis, Indiana, also plead guilty to aiding and abetting POLSTON in making false statements in connection with the acquisition of firearms and the unlawful possession of firearms by a convicted felon. Lewis had introduced POLSTON to Nunez so that she could purchase handguns for him. Lewis is scheduled to be sentenced on July 13, 2005.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James P. Hanlon, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Tinder also imposed three years supervised release following POLSTON 's release from imprisonment.

###

20050419.polston.fa.wpd